

## **Community Project Funding requests**

- Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies:
  - The Calhoun County Safe Schools Initiative in Calhoun County, MI
    - Requested \$1,700,000
    - Recipient: Calhoun County Sheriff's Department
    - Recipient address: 161 E Michigan Ave., Battle Creek, MI 49014
  - The Cure Violence Grand Rapids initiative
    - Requested \$600,000
    - Recipient: City of Grand Rapids
    - Recipient address: 300 Monroe NW, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

PETER J.F. MEIJER  
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Congress of the United States  
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COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
OVERSIGHT, MANAGEMENT, AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY – RANKING MEMBER  
INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER TERRORISM  
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
SUBCOMMITTEE:  
EUROPE, ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT, AND CYBER  
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
ENERGY  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Calhoun County Safe Schools Initiative in Calhoun County, MI.

The project sponsor for this project is the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department, located at 161 E. Michigan Ave, Battle Creek MI 49014.

The funding would be used to support the development of surveillance systems that are integrated with the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch center for 10) schools systems. This project addresses physical security technology that can provide stricter access control to make sure only authorized individuals are on premises. Video surveillance is a valuable tool to create a safe and secure learning environment for staff and students, as well as the protection of valuable assets. Security cameras with adjustable fields of view can cover wide areas such as playgrounds, parking lots and sports fields, and specialized areas such as long hallways.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits: Calhoun County is located in the lower, southeast of Michigan and has a population of 135,159 people. The county has an exponentially higher violent crime rate than that of surrounding counties with a rate of 644 violent crimes per 100,000 population. The Calhoun County Sheriff's Department is committed to providing school safety as well as law enforcement preparedness for the schools in Calhoun County. CCSD currently trains law enforcement officers to respond to an active shooter or other critical incident at schools. Schools in Calhoun County vary in size, demographics, facilities and income/revenue. CCSD is strategically analyzing the equitable distribution of resources and providing additional support for school systems that lack the resources for security infrastructure. The larger school systems in Calhoun County have video surveillance and other security measures in place that are integrated with the Calhoun County Consolidated Dispatch Center. It is the smaller schools or more rural schools that do not have the resources to have such systems and can make them more vulnerable. This project would help support these schools, making them safe and secure environments for students to learn and grow and teachers/administrators to work.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Peter Meijer  
Member of Congress  
April 29, 2021

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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,  
AND TECHNOLOGY  
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
ENERGY  
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for the Cure Violence Grand Rapids program at City of Grand Rapids.

The project sponsor for this project is City of Grand Rapids, located at 300 Monroe NW, 4<sup>th</sup> floor, Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

The funding would be used to provide additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems to achieve the overall goals of reduction of gun violence, increased sense of safety and trust by all members of the community, increased peaceful mediation, increased employment for the highest risk members of the community, and reduction of school violence.

The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer dollars and is anticipated to have the following benefits:

In recent years, the City of Grand Rapids has experienced significant increases in violent crime rates including both homicides and part 1 crimes. The Cure Violence program will play a critical role in helping the city implement evidence-based violence reduction and intervention tools to help the city make Grand Rapids a place where all people feel safe at all times.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,



Peter Meijer  
Member of Congress  
April 29, 2021